

Maynard Finance Committee
October 4, 2021
7:01PM – 8:57 PM
Meeting hosted virtually over Zoom

Present from Committee:

Alannah Gustavson, Jillian Prendergast, Ken Estabrook, Elliot Bruce, Peter Campbell, Katie Moore

Present, not Committee:

Natasha Rivera, David Gavin, Orian Green, Gregory Johnson, others not named

Alannah read the initial disclosures and called the meeting to order. On October 25 we will discuss reporting and the Collins model. Gregg and Lauri will come to the next meeting. Jill and Elliot will not be present for the October 16th Special Town Meeting. Peter and Greg gave an update on the budget review committee. Greg noted that the town is pursuing a firm to advise on how to spend ARLA money and that Lauri is still finalizing FY20 numbers. Jeff Swanberg presented an analysis to the committee showing that Maynard is most similar to Ayer, Hudson and a few others based on a subjective set of metrics ranking all 351 Massachusetts municipalities. This helps with negotiations such as those with Maynard schools since often we are compared to neighboring towns which are not a very good comparison. It also helps in comparing our budget decisions. Millis is a town we are often compared to that was not in the top 5 in Jeff's model, but was close. It is still a work in progress but nonetheless interesting.

Alannah then opened the discussion to town questions. Lydia had a question about Article 3 – to paraphrase, why not do 50:50 rather than a 100% allocation? Our understanding is that this is not a monstrous amount of money in the context of water and sewer, and the goal is to build up multiple accounts so that one can be accessed without town meeting for time sensitive projects. This gives flexibility for now.

Mr. Wagner complimented the handling of the article regarding parking spaces and noted that the article referring to the rail trail was a good idea.

There was a fair amount of discussion around Article 14. Peter recommended not to recommend, Jen seconded. Approved 5-1 by roll-call vote with Elliot dissenting.

Ken motioned that we adjourn, Peter seconded, approved 6-0 by roll-call vote. Meeting closed at 8:57PM.

Documents & Exhibits

Control notes

Reserve Fund Balance

\$101,052.29